

NODES AND MODES

Bridging Between Vision and Planning



Big Ideas Workshop

City of Edina, Minnesota
Wednesday, 19 April 2017



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The Big Ideas Workshop was a community meeting aimed at bringing Vision Edina's 'Nodes and Modes' concepts into the City of Edina's 2018 Comprehensive Plan Update.

19 April 2017

Report Prepared by

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VISION EDINA WAS THE RESULT OF A BROAD-BASED AND INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY VISIONING PROCESS CONDUCTED IN 2014-2015.

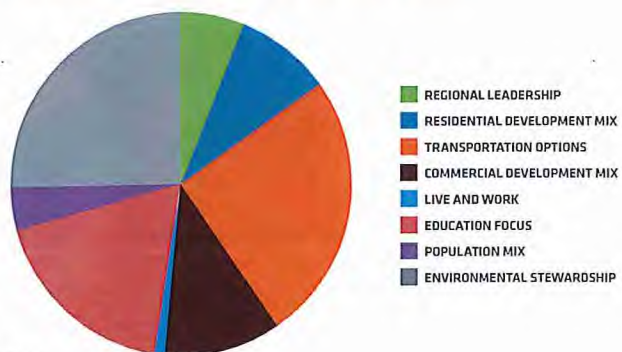
It is a long-term strategic framework that lays out the key issues identified by the Edina community. Vision Edina established the stakeholders' desire to pursue a preferred future of "Nodes and Modes." Nodes and Modes is an effort to maintain and enhance the characteristics and fabric of the Edina community yet embrace balanced urban renewal. The central part of this preferred future is the focus on unique nodes that represent the character and future goals of each neighborhood with highly connected modes of transportation between them.

In preparation of the City of Edina's 2018 Comprehensive Plan Update, Future iQ facilitated a community workshop on April 19 aimed at encouraging new "big ideas" and connecting those ideas to the eight key strategic focus areas that emerged from Vision Edina with an ultimate goal of finding ideas that propel Edina towards its Nodes and Modes preferred future.

The eight strategic focus areas are:

- Residential Development Mix
- Transportation Options
- Commercial Development Mix
- Live and Work
- Educational Focus
- Population Mix
- Environmental Stewardship
- Regional Leadership

Which major areas do you think should be a priority for innovation in Edina over the next 5 years?



The workshop participants were asked to rank which major strategic focus areas should be a priority for innovation in Edina over the next 5 years.

The participants ranked Environmental Stewardship (25%) and Transportation Options (25%) as the top two innovation priority areas, followed by Education Focus (18%), Commercial Development Mix (11%), Residential Development Mix (9%), Regional Leadership (6%), Population Mix (4%), and Live and Work (1%).

The following nine pages consist of the big ideas participants came up with for each of the eight strategic focus areas and a big picture "Nodes and Modes" framework. The ideas highlighted were the 'top big ideas' presented by each group.

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RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT MIX

Outcome of the City of Edina Big Ideas Workshop held April 19, 2017

BIG IDEAS

**Neighborhoods all need a node.
Nodes should all be different.**



Maintaining green space, moderate density and height

Energy efficient modestly priced single family houses

Smaller clusters of multi-unit housing of 10 units or less

Affordable single family homes

Pocket neighborhoods

Co-operative housing; separate living spaces that include communal areas such as gardens, kitchens, gathering spaces

Creating village, 'enhanced block club' - Foster interdependencies

More condos, less apartments

Daylight space between buildings

Low scale, town houses, etc., mixed single family in neighborhoods

Fewer mandated parking spots in residential development

Less high rises, more single homes; more contemporary style mix

Affordable housing that is really life cycle housing; values behind that are socio economic (equity), balance and diversity

The City should not let the market drive the re-development because then won't get smaller homes

Parks - Develop them as community gathering areas; use strictly for recreational uses

Community gathering spaces, ex: park building or community center

Maintain sky by limiting heights, everywhere

Less soccer fields, use less lights that are not suitable for small neighborhoods

Tax incentives for green construction



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TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS

Outcome of the City of Edina Big Ideas Workshop held April 19, 2017

BIG IDEAS

Public transportation Circulator bus

So that all people can get around without a car (teenagers, older seniors, immigrants, disabled)

Regional bike trail – now – how does it connect to nodes?

Southdale Hospital is an island – needs N, S, E, W connection with community

Connect the promenade over Hwy 62 to Lake Harriet

All new development needs safe walking connectors

Connected bike/trail/path/errand round Regional bike trail – what opportunities can we open up?

Extend the Promenade up to Strachauer Park

Quiet multi-modal multiple connectors between nodes

Incentives to use public transit



Multi-modal, multiple connector corridors among modes – that leaves modes w/quiet (walking, biking) options

Less use/no use of car – Ability to get around without a car

Transportation options at Southdale

Signage – communicating distance and time to 'nodes'

Work with Richfield – 77th Street – "International Boulevard"?

Benches and safe sidewalks – sidewalks people will want to use

Transportation corridors

Grand rounds and Promenade extension

Limited stop bus from Southdale to airport

Safer bike lanes

Oversee planning to avoid congestion. Consider what the supporting infrastructure will be.

Bisecting freeways – safe pedestrian connections (specifically Hwys 62 & 100)

Connect all bike travel

Green cars for city workers

Linear Grand Rounds – connect everything by bike or walking – everywhere!

How connect with neighbors (Minneapolis, Richfield, etc)

Quiet transportation options electric buses

Limited passenger rail on Dan Patch

Connect nodes with public transportation; the City will have its own transportation fleet (for example bus system). Also connect neighbors with each other

Protected bike lanes physical barrier from auto traffic

More transit options – circulator

Car charging stations

LRT Streetcar – France Avenue

Trains: consider the Dan Patch railroad



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COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT MIX

Outcome of the City of Edina Big Ideas Workshop held April 19, 2017

BIG IDEAS

Make commercial development throughout Edina walkable; Destination nodes



New development up to sidewalk

Keep green breathing spaces to keep the area livable

Provide easy access and reduce traffic congestion with traffic flow engineering

Clusters of industry (hospitals)

Essential services in residential neighborhoods

Building around public transportation

Sustainably repurpose buildings you can walk to for social gatherings and neighborhoods

Mixed use areas, with neighborhood commercial nodes – gathering palaces, art galleries, gardens cluster big buildings but keep neighborhood small scale

Transition zones

Neighborhood gardening places

Secondary nodes devote more energy

Attract professional employment tech companies, especially medical tech

Goals for LEED type business

Anticipate residential clusters

New business green credits/encourage business to build green

Making environmental concerns known for all future business

Bring in more high speed fiber and more cutting edge infrastructure (less financial services, move high Tech)



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LIVE AND WORK

Outcome of the City of Edina Big Ideas Workshop held April 19, 2017

BIG IDEAS

Enable live and work nodes attractive to emerging technology and medical device companies



Upgrade and offer the city wide Wi-Fi to encourage more working from home

Attract more big corporate H-Q's to locate here

Intergenerational business
i.e. Preschools in senior center/buildings

Mankato State Branch - offer entrepreneurial classes. Eg. how to start your own business

Campus grouping and jobs and housing with environmental amenities and attention to Beauty (low-scale residential and business)

Shared office space - single day use

Grouping cities and like work destinations with a common transportation model

Tax relief/Incentives for telecommuters - benefits the community not to be on the roads

"Cahill Garden" concept of live-work in current Edina industrial area

Low scale - no high rise

Solar installation help for telecommuters

Food and Drink options

Wi-Fi (city-wide)

More places for entertainment - like town hall tap - neighborhood feel - Small "Residential" places - walkable too!

Independent City news source - electronic version? Newspaper? Wi-Fi for City



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EDUCATIONAL FOCUS

Outcome of the City of Edina Big Ideas Workshop held April 19, 2017

BIG IDEAS

Life-long Learning (ideas center), Art, Culture, and Religion

Make Edina a Ted Talks leader

All students know coding by age 14

Community-wide educational theme – climate change, alternatives to US capitalization – like social democracies

Hands-on learning

Providing more resources for closing the educational gap in K-5

Leader in life-long learning: Life Long School

Multi-generational learning from institutions of higher learning



Internships or other educational connections between local businesses and schools

Expand community gardens – multigenerational learning opportunities

Affordable advanced education

Spanish and other languages

Encourage schools to help children develop their strengths

Reward adults for continuing non-professional education who teach it to their community (master gardener)

Leader in innovative K-12 Education

Facilitate language of caring by age 14

Trade-school opportunities

Public Learning spaces

More hands-on opportunities and real work connections

Multi-generational learning opportunities, ex: community gardens

Education needs to continue to be progressive and innovative

MIAC schools come here

More universities to come here

Education everywhere all the time in every aspect of community (mentorship connections)

More opportunity for individualized path in education



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POPULATION MIX

Outcome of the City of Edina Big Ideas Workshop held April 19, 2017

BIG IDEAS

Preserve socio-economic balance; no super-wealthy segregation; more racial/ethnic diversity and multicultural celebrations



Encourage aging in place

Mixed socioeconomic households – need life-cycle housing in all neighborhoods

Could we have a chapter of our comp plan about how we treat each other? "Equity"

Affordable housing; revisit density/building height issues

Inviting to a variety of cultures races and backgrounds

Density/Issues – Revisit height

More diverse housing options within each node

More multi-cultural celebrations

Supports efforts to improve each individual's personal quality of life

Depends on housing – diversity of housing options

Increase attractive infrastructure and environment for people 18-29

Encourage a variety of language opportunities and provide a variety of food

Tapping into every citizens 'resource' because everyone has something to share, eg. teach a foreign language

Re-Prioritize things to make Edina a very 'happy' place to live: National Happiness Index? Report Annually

Don't turn into a super wealthy segregated community

Promotion/leverage our current sister city relationships

True to us: Do not do things expecting others to follow us

Encourage cradle to grave neighborhoods with diverse ethnic backgrounds; Full spectrum age and diverse ethnic neighborhoods



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ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

Outcome of the City of Edina Big Ideas Workshop held April 19, 2017

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Community gardens (and farm?) with master gardeners available as 'coaches' or mentors; raise chickens together



Sustainability

Start City department of Forestry and Natural Resources

Less dependency on auto

Rain gardens

Be mindful about light pollution

Organics recycling program that includes citizen training

Require bee friendly plantings in new projects

National leader on sustainable building codes; think materials, sustainability, energy, light pollution

Rewarding environmental stewardship at home – ex. Water stewardship, energy savings

Smaller houses

Sprinkler systems

Useable green spaces as much as possible

Maintaining wild areas

Composting throughout the city

Energy and environment idea sharing

Kill all the rabbits

More organized city opposition to airport noise

Find alternative to lawns

A tree policy with teeth

Increase solar installations (on public buildings); promote PACE program for renewables and conservation

Local energy production in Edina – solar, etc

Start a tree protection program

Smart infrastructure (Harness the power of the Internet of Things-IoT) for better, more efficient infrastructure; To increase energy efficiencies, add solar to the electrical grid or monitor organized composting

Required organics and yard waste

Build bat habitats

Monitoring of air pollutants

Better protection for water



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REGIONAL LEADERSHIP

Outcome of the City of Edina Big Ideas Workshop held April 19, 2017

BIG IDEAS

Arts: Edina needs a museum, live theatre, and/or other arts destinations



Have the city lead a new approach to airport noise

Innovative transportation solution

Create annual Edina IDEAS Conference
Model environmental leadership

Create annual Edina IDEAS Conference

Tech start up hub – take advantage of quality and loyal employees

Multi-City collaboration sharing, planning and common work on shared goals – prioritize border cities

More collaboration with the cities that border Edina; sharing goals and working on problems

JFK Quote “To whom much has been given much is expected.” – “Create City Regional Leadership Mission”

Let's do things

Establish our character

Organize garbage pickup

Education plays a role

Building communication and education

Define our brand and be true to it

A leader is time to ourselves

Encourage youth leadership in national and regional organizations

Collaborative partnership with neighbors/adjacent communities

National leaders on sustainable building codes

Education makes us national leader, not just in our schools – So promote our innovations aggressively and pervasively



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Create a model neighborhood in Edina as an example of where our vision is going – mixed housing, sustainable development, more biking and walking (Environmental Stewardship, Transportation, Residential Development).

Learning spaces within each node – entrepreneur idea center, higher education, YMCA, etc.

That education should be integrated into key values/ideas/design

Transportation: Connect the various trails into a connected trail system. Benefits:

- Environmental (decrease car use)
- Social; attract younger people
- Health (improve, reduce costs)
- Beautification of the city

Stricter building standards that mandate education as part of it.



Promote node diversity with incentivizing of variable economic access.

Grandview as a transportation node with parking, connection to regional transit, city-wide trolley system. This can also be a place for an arts center, housing, travel training – high school students for health class learn how to take transit, then track others (elders, immigrants – ELL) how to use.

Starting with a Southdale Area focus – Dedicated transit network connecting medical community. Expand to Retail/Commercial housing service.

Intra-Quadrant Trail System

The “Nodes and Modes” focus should be a priority of all redevelopment/repurpose – eg. community – learning gardens/Cahill gardens

Much more extensive food and bike path system with cleverly integrated education; concrete with learning literally written into it.

Current trends in residential development (larger houses that leave less land and use more energy and water) are directly contradictory to goals of environmental stewardship.



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FOR MORE INFORMATION

Future iQ specializes in applying innovative tools and approaches to assist organizations, regions and industries shape their economic and community futures. To learn more about Future iQ and our recent projects, visit www.future-iq.com or by email at info@future-iq.com.

For more information on the City of Edina's 2018 Comprehensive Plan Update please contact:

Cary Teague, Director
Community Development
City of Edina
952-826-0415
CTeague@EdinaMN.gov
www.EdinaMN.gov



Vision Edina Scenarios
of the Future
September 2014



Community Profile and
Benchmark Analysis
October 2014



Vision Edina Community
Engagement Report
January 2015



City of Edina Strategic
Vision and Framework
May 2015